Grimsby
Mail Line

WALTHAM.

January 24th, 1908.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Grimsby Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting for your consideration my Annual Report on the Health and Vital Statistics of my District.

Table I accompanying this Report shows fully the number of deaths from all causes and at all ages, the death rate for 1907, as well as the average death rate for the last 10 years, also the number of births and the birth rate for 1907, together with the averages for the last 10 years.

Table III shows the number of Infectious disease cases reported to me in accordance with the Notification Act to be 37 - distributed as follows, viz:-

Scarlet Fever. 5 in Waltham, 3 in Laceby, 1 in East Ravendale, 11 in Immingham, 2 in Little Coates, 1 in Humberstone, 1 in Stallingborough, and 1 in Weelsby.

Diphtheria. 2 in Beelsby, 2 in Laceby, 3 in East Ravendale, 1 in Stallingborough, and 1 in Scartho.

Erysipelas. 1 in Waltham, and 1 in Scartho.

Enteric Fever. 1 in Ashby-cum-Fenby.

This compares very favourably with last year's Report when there were 47 cases notified and these 47 were distributed more generally over the district.

Whenever I receive a notification of an Infectious disease, I send a circular (copy of which I enclose) to the address - this circular gives advice as to isolation and disinfection and informs the people that the Sanitary Inspector will call and supply them with disinfectants; and provides a

WALTHAM.

January 24th, 1908.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Grimsby Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting for your consideration my Annual Report on the Health and Vital Statistics of my District.

Table I accompanying this Report shows fully the number of deaths from all causes and at all ages, the death rate for 1907, as well as the average death rate for the last 10 years, also the number of births and the birth rate for 1907, together with the averages for the last 10 years.

Table III shows the number of Infectious diseases cases reported to me in accordance with the Notification Act to be 37 - distributed as follows, viz:-

Scarlet Fever. 8 in Waltham, 3 in Laceby, 1 in East Ravendale, 11 in Immingham, 2 in Little Coates, 1 in Humberstone, 1 in Stallingborough, and 1 in Weelsby.

Diphtheria. 2 in Beelsby, 2 in Laceby, 3 in East Ravendale, 1 in Stallingborough, and 1 in Scartho.

Erysipelas. 1 in Waltham, and 1 in Scartho.

Enteric Fever. 1 in Ashby-cum-Fenby.

This compares very favourably with last year's Report when there were 47 cases notified and these 47 were distributed more generally over the district.

Whenever I receive a notification of an Infectious disease, I send a circular (copy of which I enclose) to the address - this circular gives advice as to isolation and disinfection and informs the people that the Sanitary Inspector will call and supply them with disinfectants; and provides a

Certificate, on a fly leaf, which is to be filled up and signed by the Medical man in attendance, to the effect that, after a careful examination of the patient, he is satisfied that, if disinfection is properly carried out, there is no fear of any further infection from the case.

I drew up this circular and submitted it to you, Gentlemen, last year, and I thank you again for adopting my suggestion; as I have no hesitation in saying it has been a great help to me in dealing with these cases, and has the effect, if my directions are carried out, of reducing to a minimum the risk of spread of infection. I hope you will pardon me, Gentlemen, if I again thank you for the ready spirit of progressive sanitation which influenced you in acceding to my request.

When I am able, I also visit, at once, the premises where any infectious case occurs and endeavour to trace the cause, which if found to be remediable is put right as soon as possible.

In filling up Table III, I have had some difficulty - it is necessary, to fill up this properly that each notification should state the age of the patient. The notification forms, as supplied, have no provision for filling in the age, and I would suggest that this alteration should be made.

As was the case last year, Scarlet Fever is answerable for the largest number of notified cases, there being 25 cases of this disease, whilst Diphtheria accounts for 9 - thus 34 out of the 37 cases were due to these two diseases.

All the five cases which occurred in Waltham, I was able to trace as imported from Grimsby.

Nearly all the 11 cases at Immingham occurred in children who attended School at Keelby.

Of the Diphtheria cases, 3 were notified as being in one house - I visited the house at once, and, in my opinion, considered them doubtful. The 2 in Beelsby, I considered due to

certificate, on a fly leaf, which is to be filled up and signed by the Medical man in attendance, to the effect that, after a careful examination of the patient, he is satisfied that, if disinfection is properly carried out, there is no fear of any further infection from the case.

I drew up this circular and submitted it to you, Gentlemen, last year, and I thank you again for adopting my suggestion; as I have no hesitation in saying it has been a great help to me in dealing with these cases, and has the effect if my directions are carried out, of reducing to a minimum the risk of spread of infection. I hope you will pardon me, Gentlemen, if I again thank you for the ready spirit of progressive sanitation which influenced you in accedding to my request.

When I am able, I also visit, at once, the premises where any infectious case occurs and endeavour to trace the cause, which if found to be remediable is put right as soon as possible.

In filling up Table III, I have had some difficulty - it is necessary, to fill up this properly that each notification should state the age of the patient. The notification forms, as supplied, have no provision for filling in the age, and I would suggest that this alteration should be made.

As was the case last year, Scarlet Fever is answerable for the largest number of notified cases, there being 25 cases of this disease, whilst Diphtheria accounts for 9 - thus 34 out of the 37 cases were due to these two diseases.

All the five cases which occurred in Waltham, I was able to trace as imported from Grimsby.

Nearly all the 11 cases at Immingham occurred in children who attended School at Keelby.

Of the Diphtheria cases, 3 were notified as being in one house - I visited the house at once, and, in my opinion, considered them doubtful. The 2 in Beelsby, I considered due to

defective drainage. This was attended to at once by the Sanitary Inspector and there have been no further cases - the 2 in Laceby, the Sanitary Inspector attended to, and the 1 in Scartho were removed at once to the Hospital.

The case of Enteric Fever at Ashby-cum-Fenby, was in a fisherman aged 40, who was seized with sickness after drinking water from the tank on board ship - this case was removed to the Hospital.

During the year, I have along with Mr Willows, your Sanitary Inspector, regularly and systematically inspected the District. Many improvements have been made and many defects remedied; among which I might instance the water supply at Ashby-cum-Fenby - here there has been a very poor supply of bad water for some years, but my efforts in this direction have resulted in several bores, I believe, 7, having been put down at different farms, and now there is a plentiful supply of good water. Again at Little Coates, all the drains of New houses have been smoke-tested - supplied with good water - the requirements as to space etc.of the Bye-Laws of the District Council have been complied with - and a system of scavenging adopted, which if properly carried out, and I feel sure it will be, is all that can be desired.

From Table IV, it will be seen that the total deaths of children under one year were 18 - of these 3 were due to Premature Birth - 4 to wasting diseases - 5 to Pneumonia - 3 to Diarrhoeal diseases - and 3 to Convulsions. This number, 18, is equal to a death rate of 3·34 per 1000. Of these 18, 10 were due to preventible diseases - as wasting, Diarrhoeal, and Convulsions, and probably all of these were due entirely to ignorance on the part of their Mothers in the matter of feeding. There have been, and is, a great outcry in the Country with respect to Infant Mortality, and in my opinion, the fault is almost entriely with improper feeding, and until Mothers are

defective drainage. This was attended to at onceby the Sanitary Inspector and there have been no further cases - the 2 in Lacey the Sanitary Inspector attended to, and the 1 in Scartho were removed at once to the Hospital.

The case of Enteric Fever at Ashby-cum-Fenby, was in a fisherman aged 40, who was seized with sickness after drinking water from the tank on board ship - this case was removed to the Hospital.

During the year, I have along with Mr Willows, your Sanitary Inspector, regularly and systematically inspected the District. Many improvements have been made and many defects remedied; among which I might instance the water supply at Ashby-cum-Fenby - here there has been a very poor supply of bad water for some years, but my efforts in this direction have resulted in several bores, I believe, 7, having been put down at different farms, and now there is a plentiful supply of good water. Again at Little Coates, all the drains of New houses have been smoke-tested - supplied with good water - the requirements as to space etc.of the Bye-laws of the District Council have been complied with - and a system of scavenging adopted, which if properly carried out, and I feel sure it will be, is all that can be desired.

From Table IV, it will be seen that the total deaths of children under one year were 18 - of these 3 were due to Premature Birth - 4 to wasting diseases - 5 to Pneumonia - 3 to Diarrhoeal diseases - and 3 to Convulsions. This number, 18, is equal to a death rate of 3·34 per 1000. Of these 18, 10 were due to preventible diseases - as wasting, Diarrhoeal, and Convulsions, and probably all of these were due entirely to ignorance on the part of their Mothers in the matter of feeding. There have been, and is, a great outcry in the Country with respect to Infant Mortality, and in my opinion, the fault is almostentirely with improper feeding, and until Mothers are

educated in this most important duty very little impression will be made in the way of lowering the death rate of Infants.

There have been 218 new Houses erected and certified for occupancy during the year; of these, the largest number 138 are at Little Coates, and the next largest, 53 at Immingham - the whole of these are in a perfectly Sanitary condition.

I have inspected, at different times, the Slaughter Houses, Cow Sheds, and Bakehouses in the District, and all were found in a satisfactory condition.

On the whole, Gentlemen, I consider the District is sanitarily, in a highly satisfactory state.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

G. O. McKane

M. O. H.

educated in this most important duty very little impression will be made in the way of lowering the death rate of Infants.

There have been 218 new Houses erected and certified for occupancy during the year; of these, the largest number 138 are at Little Coates, and the next largest, 53 at Immingham - the whole of these are in a perfectly Sanitary condition.

I have inspected, at different times, the Slaughter Houses, Cow Sheds, and Bakehouses in the District, and all were found in a satisfactory condition.

On the whole, Gentlemen, I consider the District is sanitarily, in a highly satisfactory state.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

M. O. H.